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Sent: Sunday, February 06, 2022 6:01 PM
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Subject: Strategic Update - 2022 02 06

STRATEGIC UPDATES FOR DEPUTY SOLICITOR GENERAL

The information in this report is current to 2022-02-06 at 1800hours.

Opposition to Public Health Measures

- No new incidents to report.

ASSESSMENT

Currently, there is no specific, identified threat and monitoring remains attuned to where ideologically motivated extremism may manifest among participants in or supporters of opposition activities.

Freedom Convoy 2022 (Ottawa)

Police Reporting

- The Ottawa Police Service (OPS) reported lower numbers of protestors at Parliament Hill today, with approximately 500 protestors present this afternoon. Reporting indicates that there were no notable conflicts between protestors and counter protestors.
- The OPS is currently pursuing tow truck capacity to assist in the removal of vehicles near Parliament Hill and the downtown core should enforcement of parking violation and bylaws require it.
- The OPS also released messaging to the public that anyone attempting to bring material supports (ie. gas, etc.) to protestors could be subject to arrest.

Open Source Reporting

- The City of Ottawa declared a state of emergency this afternoon, citing the threat to the safety and security of residents posed by the ongoing demonstrations, as well as to highlight the need for support from other jurisdictions and levels of government. The City of Ottawa media relations division also noted the declaration provides greater flexibility within the municipal administration to enable the city to manage business continuity and the implementation of more flexible procurement processes.
- Unconfirmed social media information indicates that a weekly convoy to Ottawa from the Lindsay Square Mall in Kawartha Lakes is planned for every Friday until vaccine mandates are lifted. Those who cannot attend Ottawa are urged to protest at local MPs offices or government buildings.

- Media reporting indicates that some US lawmakers intend to investigate GoFundMe for its decision to cancel the fundraiser for the Freedom Convoy 2022. The convoy protest has reportedly gained increasing support amongst US Republicans. The attorneys general of at least two US states have indicated that they will be examining whether GoFundMe violated any state laws in their respective jurisdictions.
- As of midday today, the amount raised for the new Freedom Convoy campaign on GiveSendGo was \$2.8M. The ADOPT A TRUCKER (WAR ROOM CANADA) campaign on the same platform stood at \$374,364.
 - Open source research indicates that GiveSendGo is a conservative evangelical site that was blocked by PayPal in 2021 because it allowed fundraising for individuals criminally charged as a result of their participation in the January 2021 insurrection at the US Capitol Building. The site has also hosted fundraising campaigns for extremist organizations such as THE PROUD BOYS, a designated terrorist entity in Canada.

Toronto Convoy

Police Reporting

- Police reporting noted approximately 100 protestors in the Queen's Park area this afternoon, with no issues to report. OPP members remain deployed at 20 static traffic locations to assist TPS.
- TPS announced that a 34-year old man was arrested today for assault with a weapon after the man threw animal feces at another person during demonstrations at Bloor St West and Bedford Road yesterday.

Open Source Reporting

- Nothing significant to report.

Ontario Convoy Activity

Police Reporting

- Highway 402 westbound remains closed. Approximately 100 heavy trucks and farm tractors continue to block two lanes of the 402 westbound at Front Street. Police engagement with the protestors continue, with some indicating they will be attempting to leave the area.

MTO / PEOC Reporting

- All 402 westbound lanes are currently closed and as a result access to the USA is closed via the Bluewater Bridge. The Eastbound side of Highway 402 remains open for Canada-bound traffic. Signage has been posted on Highway 401 indicating the Sarnia border is closed.
- MTO is engaged and is rerouting surface traffic to the Ambassador Bridge in Windsor, Ontario. Previous open source reporting notes commercial truck drivers and supporters may conduct slow rolls on roadways near the Ambassador Bridge over the next three days, and may attempt to block the bridge on February 7, 2022.

Other Potential Activity

- Local convoy actions are anticipated in jurisdictions across the province, please see event schedule for identified actions to date.
- Open source reporting notes a page for members of the commercial fishing industry issuing a call for workers in the maritime sector to protest in ports all over Canada and in shipping lanes to support the truck driver protest. A post on the page calls for an initial event on February 5, 2022.

ASSESSMENT

The protest landscape related to public health restrictions and vaccine mandates is fluid and dynamic, with solidarity demonstrations or convoys developing in many jurisdictions. Organized and pop-up protests, convoys and solidarity actions at the local level will likely continue for the foreseeable future. There is the potential for conflict amongst individuals and groups with differing agendas at these protests, which could pose both a public safety and officer safety threat. At this juncture, there is no concrete, specific, or credible threat with regard to the Freedom Convoy protest and Operation BearHug 2.0 activity. However, the possibility that a lone actor or group of individuals could enact a physical threat with little or no warning cannot be excluded.

Given the nature of some of the individuals and entities that have been allowed to fundraise on GiveSendGo, it is highly likely that any attempt to have the Ottawa blockade's fundraisers on this platform cancelled will be unsuccessful. Public support from prominent Canadian and US political figures is likely to galvanize the Freedom Convoy protestors. Statements from the convoy organizers regarding the cancellation of the GoFundMe campaign are indicative of a conspiratorial mindset on the part of protest organizers or participants that is likely to influence their behaviour and attitude toward the authorities. As occurred last weekend, police presence and activities are likely to be filmed.

EVENT SCHEDULE

February 6, 2022

- **Calgary-Ottawa: Freedom's Second Wave** – Departing 1000 hours, [11511 40St SE](#), Calgary; travel through Regina; Winnipeg; Thunder Bay; Sault Ste. Marie; Ottawa
- **Waterloo: True North Strong and Free** – Town Square – convoy or on foot (1200 hours)
- **Huntsville: Anti-PHO Protest** - Huntsville Place Mall to Doe Lake return (1100 hours)
- **Hearst: Hearst Convoy Support Rally** – (1300 hours – no further detail)
- **Bracebridge: Anti-PHO protest** – Memorial Park, joined by Huntsville Convoy (1400 hours)
- **Echo Bay: Horse Convoy** – horses and riders local route in support of the Freedom Convoy (1400 hours)
- **Hanover-Walkerton: Freedom Convoy** driving circular local loop (1800 hours)
- **Bolton: United We Stand** – local demonstration (1300 hours)
- **Sarnia: Tractor Convoy** – Depart Wyoming (1000 hours) to HWY 402, park on the highway for 1 hour; over 100 tractors – may attempt to block Blue Water Bridge (unconfirmed)
- **North Bay: Convoy** – Pinewood Park (1430 hours)
- **Lambton: Convoy** - Reeves Corner Truck Stop (1000 hours) – expecting 200-300 vehicles and 50 farm tractors. Route through London, Exmouth – ball hockey game at City Hall – farm tractors to park and block HWY [402 1400-1600](#) hours; exit at Hwy 40, return to City Hall and disperse.
- **Windsor: Slow Roll 1** – Mic Mac Park (1000 hours)
- **Windsor: Slow Roll 2** – Co-An Park (0930 hours)
- **Windsor: Slow Roll Freedom Convoy** – Ambassador Bridge

February 7, 2022

- **Hanover-Walkerton: Freedom Convoy** driving circular local loop (1800 hours)
- **Windsor:** Local Convoy - possible attempt to block the Ambassador Bridge (unconfirmed)

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